THE SEVENTH DAY.

28th February 1916.

The Assembly met at 11-30 A. M. on Monday, the 28th February 1916.

103. Landing ghats and bathing places in the town of Kottayam.

Mr. C. Itticheria Abraham (Member, Trading Classes, Kottayam) said that the market landing-place was frequented by about 50 big boats on market days, but there was not sufficient accommodation for all the boats for loading and unloading goods. The ghat therefore stood in need of immediate extension. The Cutcherry landing-place had also not sufficient accommodation for the steam boat and ordinary boats daily frequenting it. That ghat also should be extended.

If a landing ghat were constructed at Muttappalam on the Koduvar river, the goods coming by carts could be diverted to that ghat from the Pudupalli road-crossing and the congestion at the Kodimatha landing stage could be lessened.

The question of constructing a few bathing ghats near Nagampadam had already been brought to the notice of the authorities concerned, but nothing was done in that direction till now.

Dewan's reply.—After effecting the necessary improvements to the Kodimatha landing stage, which has already been sanctioned, it will be possible to know what relief the other landing ghats will have. The question of improving those ghats should then be considered.

104. Needs of the town of Kottayam.

Mr. A. N. Kesava Pillai (Member, T. I. C., Kottayam) said that, since the institution of the Town Improvement Committees as a separate fund department, the number of conservancy subordinates under the Kottayam Committee and of street lights in the town had to be reduced for want of funds, though the burden on the people was increased by the imposition of house-tax and other taxes. The conveniences to the people were lessened while their burdens were increased for no fault of theirs. There was not a sufficient number of public latrines and urinals in the town. Still, the people were prosecuted for committing public nuisance. That was unjust. He therefore requested that the Committee might be allowed a free discretion to spend money out of the Town Fund for providing more public latrines and urinals in the town, and for increasing the number of street lights and the conservancy staff under the Committee and that the Government should also render any additional help that might be required.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

105. The desirability of transferring to the control of the Committee, after thorough repair, the Poovakattu chira, in the town of Changanachery.

Mr. T. S. Madhavan Pillai (Member, T. I. C., Changanachery) said that the question of the improvement of the Poovakattu chira was brought up at the last session of the Assembly. On that representation, he understood that the Chief Engineer reported that the cost of improving the chira and of providing bathing ghats would be prohibitive and that therefore the idea of improving the same was given up. The tanks in the north and south of the town could be used only by caste Hindus. It was therefore clear that three-fourths of the people of the town had to depend on the Poovakattu chira for bathing purposes. The expenditure to be incurred was not small but it would not be exhorbitant. The benefit to be derived therefrom was immense. The Member therefore prayed that the bed of the tank should be cleared of the weeds and dirt and the tank entrusted to the Committee. In its

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